

# Town of Forest Heights

## Residential Waste & Recycling Service Guide

Beginning November 14th, 2011 a new automated trash collection system began in the Town of Forest Heights. A serial numbered cart registered to each resident was issued earlier this year, you must use the issued cart for trash collection. Using the new automated system is easy, you simply place your household trash into the supplied blue 96-gallon wheeled car and place your container in the street with the lid opening facing the street. Your container must be at least three feet from objects (including parked vehicles, fire hydrants, etc.) on either side and at least two feet apart from each other. Your cart must be placed at the curb by 6:30 am on collection day. Trash collection takes place once each week. All bagged garbage must be placed inside the cart, if not it will not be collected. If an additional cart is needed contact 301-839-1030 Town Administrator Vern Haefele, the cost \$60 per cart plus \$15 for delivery. Back door service is available to those special needs, please contact the Town Administrator. **Pick-ups on Monday**

Forest Heights participates in the Prince Georges County curbside collection Residential Recycling Program, you pay a fee for recycling through the Solid Waste Charge that appears on your property tax bill. It's easy, saves energy, reduces the amount of trash in our landfills and is good for the environment. Each household has been provided with a serial numbered Recycle Cart, additional carts can be obtained by calling Prince Georges Waste Management 301-952-7630. Place recycling cart at curb by 6:30 am on collection day. When placing the cart at the curb, nothing should be in front of or immediately beside the cart. All material collected is transported and sorted at the Materials Recycling Facility. Garbage should not be placed in recycling carts. **Pick-ups on Monday**

**Bulk Trash** is to be picked up once a week with a limit of three (3) items per pick up day. **DO NOT USE 96 GALLON TRASH CONTAINER FOR BULK TRASH.** Resident may use old trash containers to hold smaller pieces. Forest Heights Town Charter Article 11, Section 11.3, C, 2 Bulk Trash is considered to be **non metal** items and **discarded furniture** only. Bulk trash is to be placed on the curb. Water heaters and inoperative appliances will no longer be picked by the refuse contractor. Occupants will be responsible for disposing of said items. Occupants are responsible for disposing of automobile motors and parts, fallen trees, cinder blocks, concrete, building materials, and motor cycles (etc.) and the like. **Bulk trash is to be picked up on Thursday.**

**Yard Refuse** must be bundled brush, not to exceed 4 feet, bagged leaves and grass clippings. **Pick-up on Wednesdays. Yard waste is picked up March thru December only.**

**Special Town Pick-Up Service Charge** when it becomes necessary for the Town employees to pick-up any appliance item there will be a charge of \$35 per item. These items must be located at curb side for pick-up. Appliances are considered to be all of the following: water heaters, washers, dryers, stoves, refrigerators, freezers and electronic equipment. Pick-up of rimless tires shall be charged \$4. or with rim the charge shall be \$6.



**Holiday Schedule (No Pick-Up) New Years Day, Memorial Day, 4th July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day. If service day falls on a holiday your trash service will be on Tuesday.**

**Bulk Collection and Yard waste will be picked up on the next scheduled day.**

RECYCLABLES	TRASH	BULK
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>GLASS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food Bottles</li> <li>• Beverage Bottles</li> <li>• Liquor Bottles</li> <li>• Soda Bottles</li> <li>• Juice Bottles</li> <li>• Wine Bottles</li> <li>• Jars</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>METAL</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Empty Aerosol Cans</li> <li>• Aluminum Cans</li> <li>• Tin Cans</li> <li>• Food/Juice Cans</li> <li>• Empty Paint Cans (dry paint ok)</li> <li>• Aluminum Foil</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>PLASTICS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clothes Hangers</li> <li>• Drink Bottles</li> <li>• Plastic Toys</li> <li>• Detergent Containers</li> <li>• Water Bottles</li> <li>• Milk Cartons</li> <li>• Most Plastic with the recycle symbol 1-7</li> <li>• Empty prescription bottle</li> <li>• Clean wide mouth food containers</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>PAPER</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cardboard</li> <li>• Junk Mail</li> <li>• Magazines/Books</li> <li>• Phonebooks</li> <li>• Cereal/Cracker Boxes</li> <li>• Empty food boxes</li> <li>• Newspaper</li> <li>• Computer paper</li> <li>• White/Colored paper</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>TEXTILES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clothing</li> <li>• Shoes</li> <li>• Linen/Towels</li> </ul> <p>Please place in clear plastic shopping bags.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food Scraps</li> <li>• Mixed Products (i.e. plastic/metal combined)</li> <li>• Waxed Milk Cartons</li> <li>• Waxed paper</li> <li>• Ceramic/Pyrex</li> <li>• Mirrors</li> <li>• Safety Glass</li> <li>• Plate Glass</li> <li>• Pet Waste</li> <li>• Diseased Plants</li> <li>• Meat/Fish Bones</li> <li>• Metal Coat Hangers</li> <li>• Dairy products</li> <li>• Pails</li> <li>• Flower/Plant containers</li> <li>• Plant holders</li> <li>• Plastic trays</li> <li>• Clothes hampers</li> <li>• Tupperware containers</li> <li>• Styrofoam</li> <li>• Diapers</li> <li>• Styrofoam meat containers</li> </ul> <p>Any item that is recyclable that you cannot remove the food place in the trash cart</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>UNACCEPTABLE RECYCLE ITEMS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Broken Glass</li> <li>• Dishes</li> <li>• Electronics</li> <li>• Hazardous Material</li> <li>• Light bulbs</li> <li>• Medical Waste</li> <li>• Packing foam and peanuts</li> <li>• Plastic utensils</li> <li>• Window Panes</li> <li>• Auto parts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non Metal items</li> </ul> <p>May be placed in old trash receptacle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Furniture</li> <li>• Carpet padding (must be rolled and tied)</li> </ul> <p><b>Only 3 items per pick-up</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>YARD WASTE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Garden Trimmings</li> <li>• Weeds</li> <li>• Wood scraps/chips</li> <li>• Grass Clippings</li> <li>• Green plants</li> <li>• Dry leaves</li> </ul> <div data-bbox="1198 1570 1507 1915"> </div>

## UNACCEPTABLE MATERIALS

- Material from eviction, foreclosure
- Construction and demolition debris
- Stumps and logs
- Skids and pallets
- Drums, tanks, kegs, barrels greater than 55 gallon
- Compressed cylinders of any shape or condition
- Asbestos
- Liquids, including paint, sewage and septic waste
- Animal carcasses
- Radioactive material
- Automobile or auto parts
- Soil, rocks, grubbing material and spoil
- Ash
- Shingles, roofing material
- Fencing/sheds/gazebos
- Riding lawnmowers

To schedule a pick up or to receive a complete copy of the Town of Forest Heights Ordinance or a copy of the Trash, Garbage and Recycling Ordinance please contact the Town Municipal Building , 5508 Arapahoe Drive, phone number 301-839-1030

County citizens and residents that wish to dispose of trash and/or recycle, may use the county owned facility

**Prince Georges County Brown Station Road Public Convenience Center**  
**3501 Brown Station Road**  
**Upper, Marlboro, MD**  
**Hours of Operation—Monday thru Saturday 7am-6pm**

**Hazardous Material**  
**Prince Georges County Brown Station Road Sanitary Landfill**  
**11611 White House Road**  
**Upper Marlboro, MD**  
**(301)883-5045**

**Hours of Operation—Thursday, Friday, Saturday 8am to 3:30pm**  
**Non commercial vehicles only**

Free of charge to County citizens/residents that need to dispose of harmful household waste.

- Acid Car Batters
- Automotive fluids and fuels
- Cleaning Agents
- Cooking oil
- Driveway sealer
- Fire extinguishers
- Fluorescent light bulbs
- Gas Grill propane tanks
- Helium Balloon Tanks
- Household batters
- Insecticides, herbicides and fertilizers
- Mercury and other hazardous materials
- Oil based paints
- Poisons
- Solvents, varnish and stain
- Photographic chemicals

**REDUCE TRASH RECYCLE**

## RECYCLING WAS NEVER MORE IMPORTANT

Vern Haefele, Town Administrator

In July of this year the Mayor and Council entered into a contract to reduce the cost of trash service to the residents of Forest Heights. Under the old contract over an eight year projection the cost for twice a week trash collection would have escalated from \$17.85 per month to \$20.17 per month for each household. The cost was reduced to \$13 per month for one day per week trash pick-up service to an average of \$14.63 per month in eight years (excluding increase in landfill fees). Prince Georges County also charges \$33.52 per residence for recycling and \$46.53 per residence for landfill fees, these fees are assessed on the tax bill.

This decision was based on the fact that according to the 2010 Census Report the household average for our town was 2.33 persons with at least 45% of the residents on fixed income. A survey conducted showed that the majority of residents had trash only on Mondays. It was found that under the old trash system the residents that generated the least amount of trash were subsidizing those that generated the Lion's share of the trash.

The cost for landfill fees will continue to increase in the future,. One of the ways we can lower trash service cost is to begin recycling. The State of Maryland currently sends about 40% of its trash to neighboring states like Virginia and Pennsylvania. These states are rethinking their policies to accept out of state trash as their landfills also become full and taxpayers in those states are no longer willing to accept trash from other states. Everything that goes into a landfill stays there, taking up space. As waste breaks down—which can take hundreds of years—it releases the greenhouse gas, methane, and can emit many toxic pollutants into our water table.

Keeping recyclable items out of our landfills keeps air and water cleaner, reduces the need for Maryland to build new or expanded landfills, and conserves resources by putting existing materials back to good use. You can make the difference by beginning to recycle/reuse. Begin by making recycling a habit. A habit is something you do without thinking. While at home recycling sounds intimidating, it doesn't have to be. Each residence has been provided with a single stream recycle bin by Prince Georges County which makes recycling easier since there is no need to separate papers, plastics and metal. When throwing away trash, stop and look at the list to see if it can be recycled. After a while it will become a habit. I believe that you will begin to find you have more recycle than trash.

Reuse, it's good for the planet and for our community. **If you have an old couch or TV, don't throw it out—REUSE it** by donating it to a non-profit organization or reselling it yourself to someone who will use it. **Reusing materials helps conserve natural resources** and keeps useable items out of our landfills. Many organizations that collect and sell used items do so to support their good work in your community.

### ***Some REUSE organizations:***



**ReStore** - New and used building materials. Donations and purchases support Habitat for Humanity building projects.



**Salvation Army and Goodwill** – Clothing and furniture. Donations and purchases fund social and family services.



**Craigslist.org** – A free website where you can sell or give away your old stuff—or search for that perfect item for your home.

When shopping take with you a recycle bag to use instead of plastic.

**Forest Heights Backdoor Service is available for those persons who are Disabled or for medical reasons are unable to get their Trash to the curb and do not have anyone in their household that can assist.**

**Contact Vern Haefele, Town Administrator—301-839-1205 for Town Trash  
Prince Georges County Recycle Program Backdoor Service call 301-952-7630**

### **Section 11.5-6: Penalty**

Any person violating the provisions of the Article shall be guilty of an, infraction and shall, upon conviction, be fined not more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00) for the first offense. Repeat offenders may be assessed a fine not to exceed four hundred dollars (\$400.00) for each repeat offense.